

Poole – Cherbourg Twinning Association

2010 – Report

Poole maintains its friendly link with Cherbourg with two Joint Meetings per annum, this year in May (Cherbourg) and September (Poole).

This year has seen the launch of the Cross Channel Challenge between the two towns and a number of sports fixtures have occurred to contribute to the points total! At the moment Cherbourg is slightly in the lead – but as they are donating a trophy, this may be a diplomatic outcome for the first year!

We have been pleased to support Fire cadets from both sides of the Channel in their new links and their fire service related activities have been much enjoyed as well as educational.

Poole Youth Service has, over the past few years, forged a strong link with la Maison pour Tous in Octeville Cherbourg and both groups have made visits this year, the Cherbourg group camping and being hosted by Youth groups in the town, the Poole group staying at the L'auberge de Jeunesse in Cherbourg – how Poole would appreciate a similar Youth Hostel in the town

With the demise of Brittany Ferries the annual day visits by schools were much curtailed, although the PCTA contributed funding to those who did make the outward journey by Fast Cat and returned to Portsmouth, by helping towards the coach costs on their return. We are delighted to hear reports that the 'Barfleur' is to return to the Poole – Cherbourg route in 2011 and that, hopefully, normal service will be resumed as soon as possible!!

The Poole – Cherbourg Twinning Club now known as the PCTAG (Activity Group) a mailing list is in place and members have been invited to an Annual Dinner in January, a talk given by Normandy Veteran Ted Thurston in June, commemorating the events of D-Day and there is a planned Nouveau Beaujolais evening in November. As there is currently no committee for this group, the programme has been much reduced – however Petanque continues on Sundays and Wednesdays at Upton House and the French conversation group continues to meet.